

THE MOST WONDERFUL TOES AND FEET IN THE WORLD.

How Unthan, the Man Without Arms, Has Developed His Feet Until He Can Do Anything That Hands and Fingers Can Do.

At one of the music halls in this city there appeared recently a remarkable man, who called himself Unthan. This man, by one of Nature's inexplicable freaks, was born without arms, and yet is able to write, to dress himself, to sew, play upon the violin and even to shave himself without assistance.

He has trained his feet to do the work that other people do with their hands, and the result is almost beyond belief. So thoroughly has he obtained command of every muscle of his feet that he can accomplish feats which, even when performed by the hands, require long training and exceeding delicacy of touch. His nightly stage performance concluded with a scene representing Unthan receiving a visitor in his home. Upon the visitor's entrance Unthan greets him with a hearty shake of the foot and then asks him if he would like a cigar. The visitor nods assent, whereupon the armless man, reaching into an inner pocket with his foot, draws out a cigar case, opens it and holds it out to the visitor. Then he takes a match from the table, strikes it and lights his caller's cigarette.

They play cards. Unthan shuffles and deals with his feet as skillfully as the average player does with his hands. Incidentally he performs a few tricks that require considerable dexterity. Then he produces a bottle of wine, inserts a cork-screw, pulls out the cork with a resounding pop and fills two glasses.

With a small rifle he gives an exhibition of marksmanship, and that concludes the performance. Then he leaves the stage and resumes his everyday life, and here, unobserved by the public gaze, he is a thousand times more interesting and more remarkable than when he is performing before the footlights.

His feet, when bare and in repose, seem at the first glance, to be perfectly normal in their structure. Upon closer scrutiny, however, you can see that some of the toes are slightly longer than those of the average man, although Unthan says this development is the result of exercise, and is not natural.

He was seated in his dressing room when the reporter first saw him, and while he was talking he continued to dress himself as though it were the most natural thing in the world for a man to use his feet to button his shirt. Dragging from a corner a heavy valise he unbuckled the strap that bound it with his toes, turned the key and drew out a collar and a lawn tie.

Conversing pleasantly all the while, he buttoned the collar on his shirt and then tied the tie into as neat a bow as you ever saw in a haberdasher's window.

He drew a watch from his waistcoat pocket, opened it, saw that it was nearly two hours late and calmly wound it and set it aright.

"I was born," said he, "in Koenigsburg, Eastern Prussia, on April 6, 1850. My parents tell me that at the age of ten

months I began to use my feet to play with toys, and that at two years I was able to eat by myself. To this day I eat without assistance, cutting my meat with my feet without the slightest trouble. I can carve a fowl as well as the next man.

"I spent all my younger days in developing the power of my feet. My father, who was a professor of philology in the University of Leipzig, wanted me to follow in his footsteps, but at the age of sixteen I displayed such skill in the playing of the violin that he determined to give me the advantage of a musical education.

"The result was that before I was twenty years old I made a tour of European capitals at the head of a concert company and met with considerable success. In 1871 a Parisian manager induced me to abandon my concert work and go upon the vaudeville stage. Two years after that I went to London. I have been on the vaudeville stage ever since then.

"In addition to playing on the violin, I learned to play on the cornet, the xylophone, and, after a fashion, the piano. I can write freely in Latin, German, French and English, and when my wife is not with me I attend to all my correspondence and bookkeeping myself. I have been married for thirteen years.

"I can sew on a button or repair a seam to the queen's taste. It is a matter of pride with me never to allow any one to do for me anything that I can do for myself. Of course, to myself I am not a curiosity. I do everything with my feet because I have never known any other way of doing. I suppose if I had been brought up on a desert island I would have looked upon that as the natural way of doing things.

"I spent several months in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Berlin, where the doctors examined my feet, photographed them, wrote about them and delivered lectures on them. As soon as I got an opportunity I am going to have an X-ray shadowgraph made of them."

To show his thorough command of the muscles of his feet Unthan stretched first one toe, then another into every conceivable position, and did it exactly as you would twist your fingers independently one of another. The reporter asked him for a photograph.

"I have none with me," he said, "but I will give you a note to my landlady, who will let you select one for yourself."

Placing a sheet of paper upon his valise with one foot, he dipped a pen into ink with the other and wrote the following:

"My Dear Mrs. —: Kindly open the lower left hand drawer of the dressing case in my room and permit the bearer to make such selection of the photographs as he may desire.

Yours very truly,
CHARLES UNTHAN."

Then the armless wonder opened the door with his foot and passed out into the street.



The Toes Mr. Unthan Uses as Fingers.

WHIMS OF SUPERSTITION.

Queer Popular Notions Regarding Various Familiar Actions and Things.

ANT—Kill an ant and the day will be rainy.

APRON—If it falls off your sweetheart is flirting at the moment with a rival.

BARBERS—Cut their nails and they will be light-fingered. Never let a child look into a mirror until it is a year old. Carry it upstairs before dawn to insure success in life. The sex of the next child is determined by whether the one in the cradle learns to say papa or mamma first.

BARRELS—If you see a load of empty barrels make a wish and follow the load for one block and it will come true. In the country a load of barrels is a sign of rain.

BIRDS—If they beat against the window expect to hear of death. If they fly into the room, they bring a message from the dead which will be revealed in a dream.

BRIDGES—To walk under while a train is passing is bad luck. In the case of "L" roads damage to clothing may follow.

BUTTONS—A woman who finds a trousers button will be lucky for two days. To find a collar button is lucky. To lose a dress button is ill fortune.

CALLERS—If a woman calls first on Monday prepare for bad luck all week. If it be a man you will find things pleasant for seven days.

CATS—Black cat looking in the window is bad luck. If the black cat follows you it is good luck. If a cat leaves your house prepare for misfortune.

CHAIR—To oscillate an empty rocking chair will result in the death within the year of the next one who sits in it. To upset a chair is bad luck.

CHURCH—To insure good luck enter with the right foot first.

COMB—To drop it signifies disappointment. To break a tooth, means a delightful surprise, and to break in two means death, which may be averted by burning the parts in an open fire.

CRICKET—To have one in the house is good luck. Ill will befall you if you kill it.

CROSS-EYES met in the morning brings bad luck all day. Turn around three times to break the spell.

CROWS—A flock of crows falling over your head is a bad omen and you "had better watch out."

DISH CLOTH—To drop it signifies that a stranger will call.

DOVE—A white dove flying into a room is a messenger of death.

DRESSING—To accidentally put on any article of clothing wrong side out means unexpected good luck. If under a malignant spell a sack or undergarment turned inside out will cause fortune to smile. To dress the right foot first with a stocking and shoe, good luck all day.

EAR—If the right ear burns some one is talking good of you. If the left ear burns you are being slandered by one you think is your friend.

FOUR—To drop one, a woman caller. If it sticks in the floor she will bring bad news. To stir your coffee with a fork is to stir up trouble.

FRIDAY—A journey undertaken on any enterprise embarked upon on this day will come to grief. A marriage on this day is a marriage for love, but those who are born on Friday are accounted or godly given.

FUNERAL—To cross through a train is to insure a funeral in your own house within a year.

GARTERS—To lose the left garter means marriage within the year. The loss of the right garter dooms the loser to old maidenhood.

HAIRPIN—If it works out of your hair your sweetheart is thinking of you.

HAY—Upon meeting a load of hay make a wish and it will come true, especially if you follow it repeating the wish.

HUNCHBACK—Rub the hump of a hunchback, and if he does not detect you you will succeed in your undertaking. If he feels it and turns around you had best put off any serious undertaking for that day.

KNIVES—To drop one is a sign of a gentleman caller. To accidentally put an extra knife, fork or spoon at a plate will bring good fortune to the one who is to sit there. To make a present cuts friendship.

LADDER—To walk under is bad luck, and dangerous if a hot carrier is ascending with a load of bricks.

MATCH—If it goes out before being used it is a sign of disappointment. If held upright and burns your sweetheart is true. If it goes out he is false.

MENDING—To repair a garment or sew on buttons on clothing which the owner is wearing it is a sign that he or she will tell lies about you.

MIRROR—To break one brings seven years' bad luck. To see the new moon in it means disgrace.

MOON—Seen over right shoulder, good luck. Any wish then made will come true. The omen is made additionally potent by bowing nine times at the luminary. Seen over left shoulder, bad luck; also, the receipt of money under unpleasant circumstances. Seen full in the face, you face your fortune for the month, and it is to your caution whether it be good or bad.

MOVING—If you leave anything in the old house you will return to live in it again.

MUD—If it is splashed on you money is on the way for you.

NOSE—If it itches, you will hear news, the quaint rhyme being, "You will get angry, kiss a fool, see a stranger, be in danger, or hear some news."

PALMS—Right hand itching means you will shake hands with a stranger or old friend long absent. Left hand, the receipt of money. "Rub it on wood, it is sure to come good," provided the wood is unpainted.

PEPPER—Upset the pepper box and you will receive money in the mail.

PIGS' BLOOD—If it is sprinkled on you you will die in an accident.

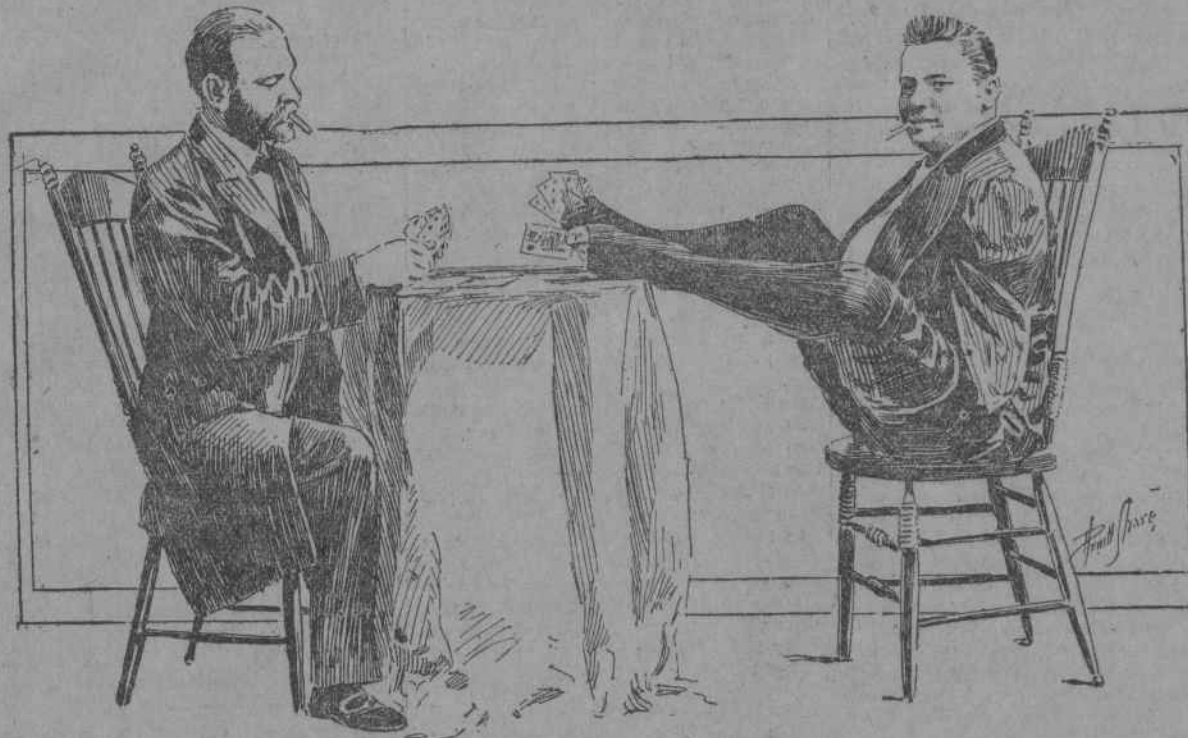
REDHEADED GIRL—Meet a redheaded girl and you will see a white horse in sight. In the morning she is good luck.

SALT—To hand to anyone is a sign of a quarrel. To spill, disaster; also brings bad luck to the one who receives it. To avert these consequences, burn a pinch of it on the stove.

SATURDAY—Marriage on this day is unlucky. Born on this day, you will work hard for a living. To move means a short stay.

SCISSORS—If they spread open when they fall expect a stranger. If they fall into a crack good luck.

Unthan's Educated Toes in Various Poses.



How Mr. Unthan Plays Cards.

HISTORIC CLOCKS.

Famous Old Timepieces of Strange Mechanism and Curious Construction.

SCHOOLGIRLS—If they walk four abreast they will fall in their lessons.

SEAT—To change your seat at table after being seated brings bad luck.

SHOELACE—If it comes untied your sweetheart is thinking of you.

SHOE—To wear on the ball you spend all; to wear at the toe you spend as you go; to wear at the heel you spend a good deal, and to wear at the side you'll be a rich man's bride.

SPIDER—If found in your room in the morning, bad luck; at noon, a little misadventure; at night, good luck. If it gets on your clothes you will get something new to wear. To kill it is very bad luck.

SPOON—Two in a cup is a sign of a wedding.

STAIRS—To fall upstairs means a speedy marriage.

SUGAR—Upset the sugar bowl and money will be paid you long since due.

THIRTEEN—To sit thirteen at table means the death of some one of the party within a year. The number is unlucky in every instance, except that the thirteenth child born is sure of long life and fortune.

TOWEL—For two people to wipe their hands at the same time presages a quarrel between them.

UMBRELLA—To open in house, dire domestic disaster. To lay on a bed brings disappointment to the owner.

WEDDING RING—To remove it is considered unlucky. To pawn it is sure to bring continued misfortune. To lose it means divorce.

WHITE STONES—To walk over is bad luck, unless you turn clear around when you have crossed over.

tion in London an electric circuit of 108 clocks.

The first clock regulated by a pendulum was made in 1659 by the son of Galileo. Richard Harris placed a clock of this kind in St. Paul's in 1641, and Christian Huygens made good ones previous to 1658. The first clock to strike the hour was placed in Westminster in 1385.

A curious timepiece was the one John Harrison, of Foulby, England, made in 1715. Harrison was an early expert, and won a reward of \$100,000 offered by the Board of Longitude for a method of determining the longitude at sea. This clock was not like the others, for it was made with the sole intention of being a curiosity. Every part of it was of wood, with the exception of the escapement, which he found could not be made to work if constructed of wood. It, however, was a success, for although made nearly two centuries ago, it was running in 1871 at the patent museum at South Kensington. It struck the hours and indicated the day of the month, and was an eight-day clock.

A strange clock left by Fardoli is not only a curiosity, but it is also admired as a work of art, and it, moreover, keeps good time, although the mechanism required is necessarily complicated. It is in shape like a fan, and the time is shown by blades spread progressively, which, when all are closed, close at the twelfth hour. The time covered is from six to six, thirteen blades being necessary to show the twelve hours. The hour is denoted by the number of blades that are exposed.

At 6 o'clock the fan is entirely closed; as time progresses the first blade moves slowly upward, uncovering the next, until at 7 o'clock the second blade is entirely

visible, and so on until 6 o'clock is again reached, when a spring and lever attachment returns the fan to the original position. The movement is bulky, but is hidden behind a red plush cushion. The enamel painting on the fan is wonderfully fine.

Mr. Plancon devised an amusing clock which attracted considerable attention at the Amsterdam Exposition. It consisted of a tin or metal plate, which would hold water, with the hours marked about the rim. When filled with liquid a small metal turtle floating in the centre regularly pelated the hours. The explanation is that a magnetized disk travelled about the circle under the water, and the turtle, with its small needle concealed beneath its body, was attracted steadily by the disk and followed it about.

Among the remarkable clocks are, those which run an unusually long time, Herr Noll, a mechanic, of Berlangen, Germany, constructed a clock warranted to run 9,000 years without winding, it is said, Mr. D. L. Goff, in this country, had in his hall an old-fashioned clock, which, so long as the house is occupied, never runs down. Whenever the front door is opened or closed, the winding arrangement connected by gears with the clock is given a turn, so that every person entering the house aids in keeping it going.

Mr. T. G. Farron, of Fresno, Cal., invented a clock, the only motive power of which, he alleges, is the gravitation of the earth, and it requires no winding. This clock consists of a plate glass dial suspended from the ceiling, and all the parts of it visible are the two hands, the pivot on which they swing and the dial. In 1840, Mr. J. Smith, of Leeds, England, made a clock, the sole motor of which was electricity. He lived to see this clock go for fifty years. There is a clock in the Church of St. Quentin, Myreux, which is said to have stopped only once during a period of 500 years.

Clocks are now constructed to run five years, with one winding up. In 1881 the Belgian Government placed one of these in a railway station and sealed it with the Government seal. It is said to have kept admirable time, having been only twice wound—in 1880 and 1891.

There is a certain clock which has a single hand, and it was never intended that it should have the regular complement. It is an old one, standing in the court yard of the Palace at Versailles, and is called L'Horloge de la Mort ou du Roi. It contains no works, but consists merely of a face in the form of a sun, surrounded by rays. On the death of a king the hand was set to the moment of his demise and remained unaltered till his successor had joined him in the grave. The custom originated under Louis XIII., and continued until the revolution. It was revived on the death of Louis XVII., and the hand continues to this day fixed on the precise moment of that monarch's death.

A mechanic of Geneva, in the last century, constructed a truly remarkable clock. It had figures of a negro, a dog and a shepherd. When the clock struck the shepherd played six airs on his flute, and the dog approached and fawned upon him. When exhibited to the King of Spain by its maker, Dross, the King, at his request, took an apple from the shepherd's basket. The dog barked and stretched the King's dog barking also.

PRIVATE GAME PARKS.

Ideal Hunting and Fishing Preserves Owned by American Millionaires.

More than a few New York men of wealth maintain extensive game parks within easy distance of the metropolis.

Upon these are raised game for shooting, such as grouse, partridges, pheasants, hares, etc., as well as elk, deer, buffalo, etc., the purposes of which are purely ornamental, and their breeding a failure.

George J. Gould at his Summer home in the Catskills has a preserve of 600 acres enclosed with wire fencing, and well stocked with ring-neck and Mongolian pheasants and various kinds of hares, as well as large game. The greater part of the park is woodland. Mr. Gould has at the present time fifty elk from one to ten years old, and about twenty calves. He also has fifteen common red deer and five black-tail deer. He is the owner of a fine trout lake covering about twenty acres of land, and one mile of trout stream.

Theodore A. Havemeyer has an extensive preserve at Mountain Side Farm, Mahwah, N. J.

There are about 250 acres enclosed in his deer park, part thickly wooded and part open grazing glades. Spring water is in abundance. There are about seventy deer this year, and many rabbits, Belgian hares, quail, woodcock, partridges and English pheasants. Keeping this park as the sanctuary, and allowing no shooting in it, brings birds to it from other sections of the country where no preserves exist.

C. W. Chapin's game preserve at Lebanon Lake, near Fond Eddy, Sullivan County, N. Y., was first fenced previous to 1860. In November, 1895, an additional tract was enclosed. The two parks are surrounded by barbed wire fencing eight feet high, about ten miles being used for each park.

At present Mr. Chapin is said to have in the two preserves 125 elk, 100 deer and a considerable number of Belgian hares, native hares, jack rabbits and squirrels, as well as wild turkeys and wild geese with their wings clipped.

Nehalem Park is what Dr. W. Seward Webb calls his Adirondack lands, 900 acres of which are enclosed as a game preserve. There are at present in the preserve sixteen moose, thirty-five elk and 270 deer.

Edmund H. Litchfield has made a game park of 9,000 acres of wild forest land near Tupper Lake, in the Adirondacks. The area enclosed is about two and a quarter miles wide by six and one-half long, and is stocked with elk, deer, fox, squirrels, jack rabbits, wild turkeys, quail and grouse. He also has an ideal trout stream, and two well-stocked fishing lakes.

Mr. John M. Forbes owns Nantuxon Island, in Buzzard's Bay, and has always taken an interest in game preservation. Though little attention has been paid to stocking, there are a number of deer and a few quail on the island at present.

Mr. C. C. Worthington has a preserve near the Delaware Water Gap said to contain 2,500 acres. It is enclosed with a wire fence eight feet in height. There are upward of 800 deer in this park.

Tranquillity Park, Mr. Rutherford Stevenson's game preserve at Allamuchy, N. J., includes an area of about 4,000 acres, fenced with a close board fence nine feet high and a line of barbed wire eleven inches above the boards. The park includes wooded hills and swamps and a number of old, abandoned farms. There are 200 deer and forty elk on the preserve. A well-regulated beaver colony is a feature. Small game of all kinds abound.